

# Motor neurone disease

## First contact with a patient with MND?

Motor neurone disease (MND) is a fatal, rapidly progressing disease that effects the brain and spinal cord. It has no cure.

**Make sure you find out how they communicate**

**Never lie them flat even if breathless**

**Don't allow them high flow oxygen (unless in their care plan)**

- Consult their care plan
- Avoid A&E wherever possible
  - contact their district nursing team and local care team
  - speak to their local palliative care coordinator or their GP

**People experience MND differently.**

**Please take your time with these patients, and their carers/relatives.**

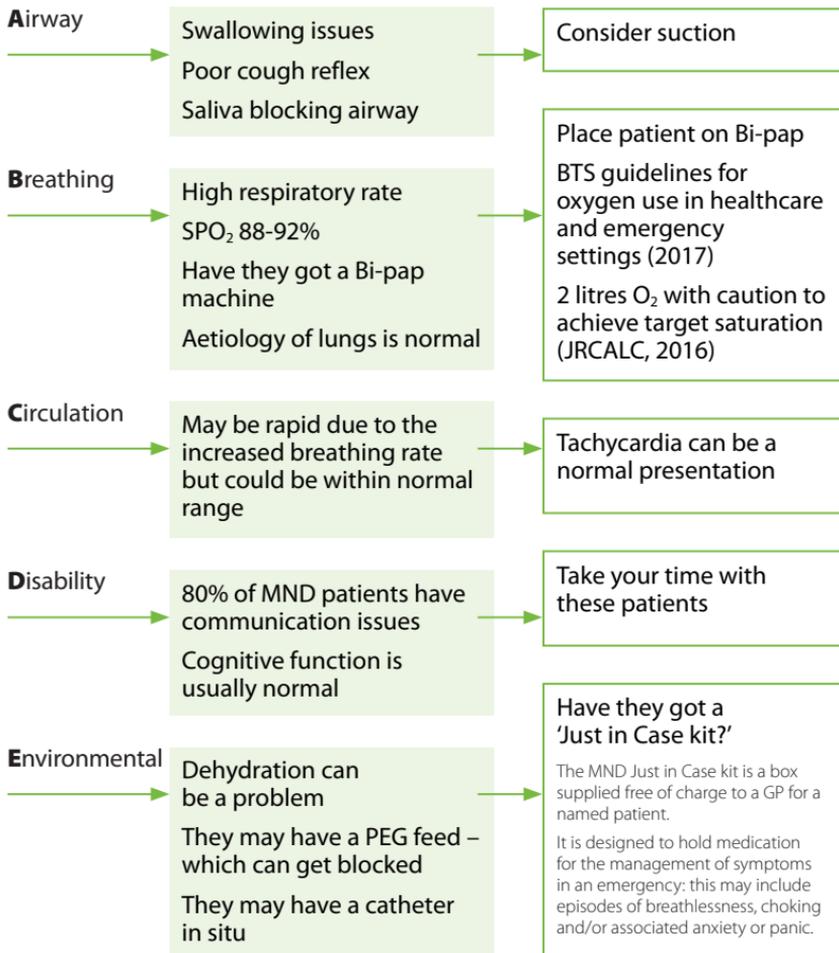
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You may come across a patient with MND. These patients have complex needs. This tool card is to help you understand their condition and to give brief guidance on appropriate treatment for these patients.

### Key points

People with MND could have a high NEWS score however this could be normal for them. They will have a normal increased respiratory rate and also a lower SpO<sub>2</sub> that needs to be taken into account. Establish if this has changed.

Do they have an emergency health plan (EHA), an advance care plan (ACP), or an advance decision to refuse treatment (ADRT)?



For more information about MND see NICE guideline NG42 and visit [www.mndassociation.org](http://www.mndassociation.org)